

N.O.W. News

Vol. 44 No. 4

Winter 2006



Season's Greetings

Numismatists of Wisconsin
is incorporated in the state of Wisconsin as a non-stock nonprofit tax exempt corporation.

Your contributions are tax deductible

The objective of Numismatists of Wisconsin is to encourage and promote interest in numismatics, to cultivate friendly relations between Wisconsin coin collectors and Wisconsin coin clubs, and to encourage and assist new numismatic hobbyists. All resources of the organization shall be used to further these objectives. Dues are \$5 per year and entitles participants to NOW News, this quarterly publication. Among the services offered are coin authentication, a Speaker's Bureau, show calendar coordination and guidelines

Winter 2006



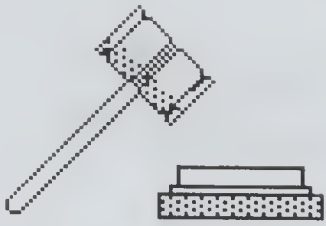
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NOW News Deadlines

February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1



President's

Message

by Thad Streeter

It's amazing that another year is winding down. It seems that 2006 just started and now it's almost over. Autumn has replaced summer and in turn will be supplemented by winter. So goes time, so goes life and so goes the hobby of numismatics. As the hobby changes with anticipation of new issues it is also a time to reflect and give thanks for the enjoyment that we receive, the knowledge that we gain and the friendships that we make and maintain.

2006 was a busy year for NOW and thanks need to be given to the Officers and Board of Governors. We had a year of debate and change. Ideas were exchanged, discussed, rejected and accepted. Everybody worked together for the welfare of NOW.

I want to thank Ron and Phyllis Calkins. Thanks go to Ron, for doing such a fine job of keeping the books and Phyllis, for the exceptional effort that she makes each quarter as editor of NOW News. The dedication that these two have shown to NOW goes back decades.

Thanks go out to Gene Johnson, the NOW historian. Gene has made it his mission to catalogue the history of NOW. The NOW archives are as organized and complete as a labor of love can make them.

Thanks go to Cliff Mishler. Cliff has been working to make the 2007 ANA show something that will make NOW and the state of Wisconsin proud of. Due to Cliff's efforts, a new standard will be set and Milwaukee 2007 will be an event that will be talked about for a long time to come.

Many thanks are extended to the other officers and those on the board. Committees

were formed, research was made and reports and recommendations were presented not only to each other, but to the general membership of NOW. That is progress. That is change. That is good!

Thanks also goes out to the Numismatic Research Society. Although it has disbanded this past year, their assets were presented as a gift to NOW. This has been detailed in a previous issue, but I want Randy Miller and Bob Van Ryzin to know that their commitment to the hobby and to NOW is truly appreciated.

With the thanks having been given, I now want to look forward to and wish all of our NOW members a blessed and joyous Christmas and Holiday season. I wish that you all may be able to spend time with your family and friends.

Until next time, I shall remain yours in numismatics.

Thad

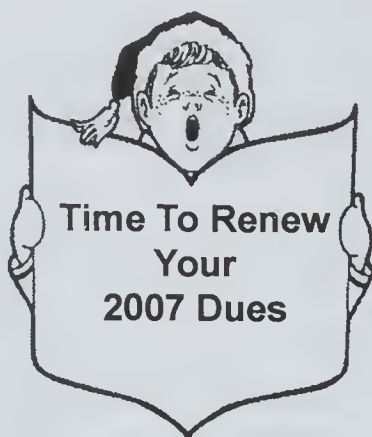


Vote for the Best

Your vote is needed! Each year articles written and published in NOW News are voted on and winners receive cash awards donated by the South Shore Coin Club, Randy Miller (formerly Numismatic Research Society) and the Milwaukee Numismatic Society.

A "Vote for the Best" form is included with this newsletter. Please review each of the articles and vote for 3 of your favorites.

The purpose of our Writer's Awards is to encourage numismatic journalistic talents among our members. If you have written a numismatic article, why not send it to the editor and maybe you'll be one of next year's winners.



A dues notice is included with this issue. Please check your label and if your membership is about to expire, please send in \$10 for your 2007 dues.

Because of bulk mailing weight regulations, everyone receives a notice, even Life Members.

Call For Nominations

In accordance with the NOW Bylaws, a call for nominations of officers shall be made in NOW News.

Officers whose terms will expire at the 2007 NOW convention are:

Tom Casper	Myles Fenske
Tom Galway	Mike Tramte

Candidates for the Board must have been a member of NOW for a minimum of 1 year and no member may nominate himself/herself.

Nominations will close December 31, 2006. Send your nominations to Numismatists of Wisconsin, P.O. Box 155, Mazomanie, WI 53560.



ANA Seeks Speakers

by Tom Casper

The 116th Anniversary Convention of the ANA is coming to Milwaukee, WI on August 8-12, 2007. They were last here in 1986. Plans are now being made to make this a phenomenal show. There is always a lot to see and do at a national show. One of the highlights will be the Numismatic Theatre. There will be two theatres running concurrently.

This a tremendous opportunity for you to share your numismatic knowledge in your favorite field of numismatics. With 10,000 visitors expected, there will be people interested in all phases of coins and paper money.

David Hunsicker and I would like to invite you to speak in the Theatre. The talks only have to be 1/2 hour in length and you can pick the date and time you will be available. The deadline for applications to be included in the program is May 31, 2007.

Please contact us if you have any questions or if you would like a Speaker Application sent to you

Thomas Casper

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Email- davehuns@yahoo.com.

ANA 116th Anniversary is Rapidly Approaching

by Cliff Mishler

The 116th Anniversary American Numismatic Association Convention will be here before you know it. Put August 8-12, 2007 on your calendar now... it will be a great show and one you won't want to miss.

There's Still Time to Volunteer

Volunteer worker positions to be filled for conducting the activities of the convention will be upwards of 100, to adequately cover all bases and assure that the event will be fulfilling and memorable for our visitors. The greatest demand for volunteers will be to serve on the pre-registration, registration, hospitality/greeting, pages and setup/tear-down committees; secondarily for the activities, exhibits, numismatic theatre and scout program committees.

The benefits that will accrue to volunteers in addition to the satisfaction of having provided valuable support to the host clubs and the hobby community at large are:

- 1) A free ANA photo ID badge, permitting bourse floor admission during dealer hours throughout the convention;
- 2) A free shirt identifying you as a host club's volunteer to wear while working and to keep as a souvenir; minimum 10 hours total volunteer commitment'
- 3) A free 116th anniversary ANA banquet ticket (10 hour commitment required);
- 4) Parking fees reimbursement up to \$8 per day on scheduled volunteer days;
- 5) Some compensation considerations for food and beverage expenditures for lunch;
- 6) The undying gratitude of the host clubs;
- 7) An experience of a lifetime.

The "Join A Local Coin Club" promotion will

be implemented at the convention. A funding commitment to sponsor the promotion has been made by Bill Bright, publisher of Numismatic News. This promotional program allows participating local coin clubs to recruit new members from visiting convention attendees at no cost to either the individual or the club of their choice.

In keeping with the theme selected for the convention -- COIN COLLECTING CAPTURES TIME /Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow -- the official commemorative medal will represent the historic Allen-Bradley clock tower on the obverse and a representation of Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava's acclaimed "wings" addition to the Milwaukee Art Museum on the reverse.

The 20th century Allen-Bradley tower hosts the world's largest and tallest four-faced clock, while the Art Museum's Calatrava addition, his first commission in the U.S., posed like a great ship on the shore of Lake Michigan, in 2001 greeted the 21st century. Accomplished sculptress Virginia Janssen of Green Bay has been commissioned to execute the designs for the commemorative, which will be struck in Green Bay by the Medalcraft Mint. Thus, from concept, through execution and manufacture, this year's ANA convention medal will be a totally Wisconsin product.

This Was Wisconsin's Money

If you attended the 85th anniversary ANA convention in Milwaukee in 1986, you'll probably recall the expansive exhibition "Wisconsin's Money" presented there through the co-operative participation of six prominent state collectors. That special exhibition embraced territorial and state obsolete bank notes, large and small size national bank notes, Civil War store cards, sutler and merchant tokens, and paper scrip.

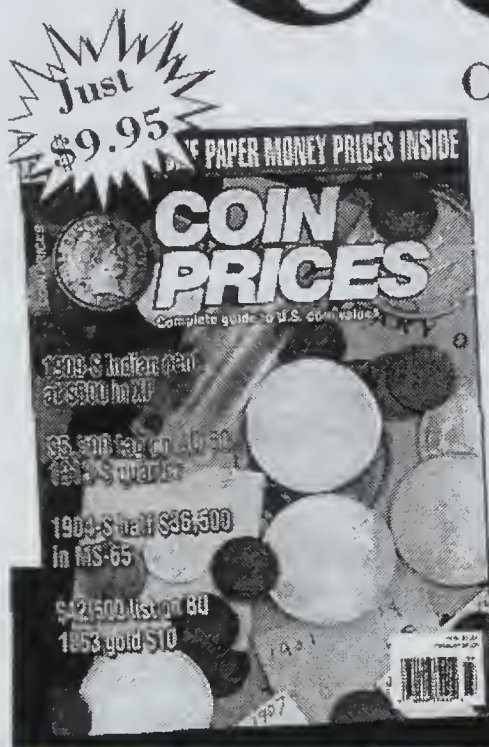
At the 116th anniversary convention a reprisal of sorts will be presented, it being a

continued on pg. 6

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ANA Highlights

ANA Expands Seminar Sessions

The American Numismatic Association will expand its Summer Seminar schedule to include programs at both of its annual conventions each year. The expansions will begin with the 2007 National Money Show in Charlotte, NC and the 2007 World's Fair of Money in Milwaukee.

According to the ANA, the purpose of the expansion is to make Summer Seminar classes available to students who cannot travel to Colorado Springs, CO during the summer or do not have the time to attend a week-long event. The traditional Summer Seminar in Colorado Springs will continue to be held during two weeks in July.

Information regarding the ANA Summer Seminar expansions will be updated regularly on the ANA website at www.money.org.

Central States Convention May 7-12, 2007

Convention Chairman, Kevin Foley has extended an invitation to all NOW members to attend the 68th Anniversary Convention of the Central States Numismatic Society to be held at the America's Center, located at 701 Convention Plaza in downtown St. Louis, MO. In addition to a 275+ bourse area with dealers representing virtually every numismatic specialty area. Heritage Auctions will hold two separate Signature Sales, one devoted to rare coins and the other focusing on collectable paper money.

They will also have a 1st class educational exhibit area as well as a full range of educational programs and club meetings.

Rooms are blocked for attendees at the Holiday Inn Select (314-421-4000) and Drury Inn (314-231-8100).

For more information, visit their website, www.centralstates.info.

* * *

ANA's 116th Anniversary continued ...

comprehensive presentation of Wisconsin fiscal paper -- "This Was Wisconsin's Money" -- featuring the state's territorial and state obsolete notes, large and small size national banknotes, postage stamp envelopes and Civil War tokens, cardboard chits and the wide ranging scrip issues collections as assembled by Chester Krause.

The 2007 incarnation will be presented in upwards of 170 cases. Complementing this special exhibit and drawing attendee attention to it will be the display of a 1923 Kissel 7-passenger touring car, a vehicle manufactured in Hartford, Wisconsin, along with an example of the National Bank Note issue signed by O.P. Kissel, who also served as president of the First National Bank of Hartford.

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Coin Club News

Review of MNS Fall Show

by Tom Casper #982

Our 2006 Milwaukee Numismatic Society's show, held at the Serb Hall, was another successful event. October 1st was a beautiful, warm, fall day, just made for a coin show... and with the Packers not playing, and the metals market still up, there was just no reason not to attend.

This year's attendance was 428, up from last year's 388. The sale of raffle tickets was phenomenal. We ran out of tickets an hour before the show closed.

The dealer bourse was sold out with 37 dealers filling 63 tables at the show. All reportedly did well and promised to return next year. We had a waiting list of dealers, which we hope to accommodate next year. Dave Hunsicker has already sold 48 tables for next year's show.

The competitive exhibits expanded to 23 cases from 8 exhibitors. A first-time exhibitor displayed two cases of Wisconsin Civil War tokens.

Our show was successful in every way. This is due to the large number of MNS members who volunteered at the show. A big thank you goes to everyone who helped in any way, by working, exhibiting or judging. It was a pleasure to work with the entire show committee who put in many hours before the show as well as at the show; David Hunsicker (Bourse); Lee Hartz (Treasurer); Betty Petrovick (Exhibits); Lillian Kasun

(Public Registration and Raffle); Bruce Benoit & Ellery Kretlow (Publicity/Advertising); Norm Vogel (Dealer Registration and Case Delivery). Thanks also to Fred Borgmann, of Iola, the Krause Publications representative. The 2007 show date is October 7, 2007 and I hope everyone will again participate and attend.

* * *

South Shore Coin Club

Members approved raising the membership dues to \$8, with the life membership remaining \$80. The dues increase becomes effective January 1, 2007. President Art Petri reports that it's not too late to sign up for life membership.

* * *

Madison Coin Club

The November program was something different -- Dana Cushman had a bag of 1995 Lincoln cents.... members looked for a double die or any other unusual varieties. The first person to find a double die won a silver round from the club.

This is a fun and educational program that other clubs may want to do at a meeting. Remind members to bring a magnifying glass and perhaps a lamp. A couple of small clean bowls to hold the coins is also a good idea.

* * *

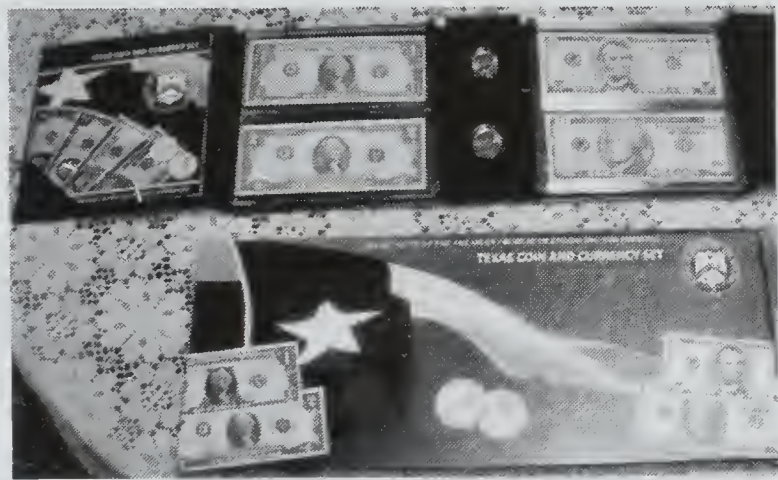
Racine Numismatic Society

by Richard Roskres

Miracles do happen -- just ask Richard Roskres. He tells a frustrating tale about ordering a Texas coin and currency set. "I dialed the Bureau of Printing and Engraving, got a busy signal and kept trying and kept getting busy signals. I walked my dog, got back an hour later, tried calling again... and finally talked to a person only to be told that the Texas set didn't go on sale until noon.

At 11:00 a.m. our time I tried calling for another hour and a half. After running some errands, I returned home and to my surprise, talked to a nice lady and was told the set had sold out in the first hour and if I left my name and number they'd call me if an extra set came up. I thought Fat Chance!

Two weeks later our phone rang and my wife told me it was from Washington. My eyes lit up when I was told they had a Texas coin and currency set available if I was still interested. I quickly said yes and made arrangements for payment. A little over a week later a delivery person rang my doorbell and she handed me a big box tightly sealed. Out came this beautiful set. The two shiny quarters open, the flap on either side sealed in plastic were the \$1, \$2, \$5 and \$10 bills, all the same serial number and the \$2 bill being a star note."



Richard says "It was all worth it, and I have my faith restored in the U.S. government."

* * *

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Fishbowl Wooden Nickel Coin Club

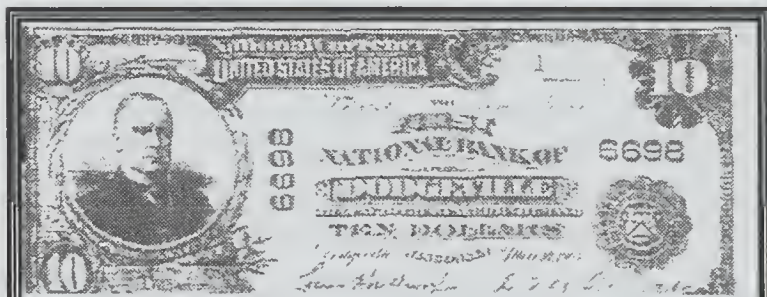


The Fishbowl Wooden Nickel Coin Club held their annual coin show on August 5th at the Siren Senior Center in Siren, WI. The attendance was very good, causing lively activity at the dealer tables.

The new 2006 40th Anniversary wooden nickel features a black squirrel. It's available for 25¢ and a postage paid self-addressed envelope.



Send your order to Fish Bowl Wooden Nickel Coin Club, c/o Gary Schauls, 2702 150th St., Luck, WI 54853.



Buying Wisconsin Nationals

(Trades also considered)

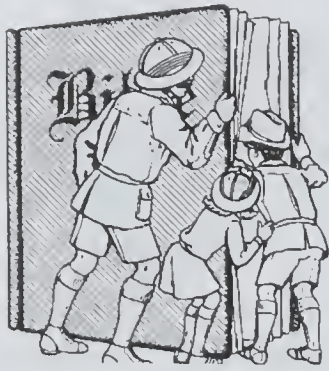
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Book Nook

"Obsolete Paper Money Issued by Banks in the U.S. 1782-1866"

David Bower's latest numismatic publication was released this fall by Whitman Publishing. "Obsolete Paper Money Issued by Banks in the United States, 1782-1866" will be "must" reading for early currency buffs.

Arranged in 21 chapters, each of which is extensively illustrated, the author begins with an overview of early American paper money for the first Massachusetts issue of December 10, 1690, down through the various notes of the 13 colonies, through the Continental Currency era, and into the period of state-chartered banking. Containing numismatic information such as the designs and availability of banknotes, the history of individual banks and a rich background of the American scene, the author creates a "you are there" experience throughout.

Based upon several decades of study, plus contributions from a veritable "who's who in American numismatics", plus a foreword by Eric P. Newman, the book is a "one volume library on obsolete currency" according to Mary Counts, Whitman's president.

The 600-page volume lists at \$69.95 and is available from most book and coin shops or by calling American Numismatic Rarities at 603-569-0823.

Source: Numismatic News

New Books from Zyrus Press

"Numismatic Forgery"

by Charles M. Larson

This book takes you into the clandestine workshop of the criminal forger, and explains the methods and techniques that every serious coin collector should know about before they purchase a rare or expensive coin.

The informal interviews Larson conducted with the infamous master forger, Mark Hofmann at the Utah State Prison in the late 1980's lay the foundation for a number of methods revealed in the book. Hofmann is widely known for his forgery of historical Mormon documents, but Hofmann's coin forgeries continue to serve as a note of caution and as a source of frustration and embarrassment to many collectors and dealers.

The book lists at \$18.95 and sets a new standard for numismatic research works and promises to forever change how collectors and dealers of rare coins understand and approach counterfeit detection.

* * *

Other Books From Zyrus

The third edition of "A Buyer's Guide to Silver Dollars and Trade Dollars of the United States", by Q. David Bowers is now available from Zyrus Press. With a retail price of \$19.95, the 6x9" paperback contains more than 200 color images.

Zyrus is also preparing the 4th edition of "Standing Liberty Quarters" by J.H. Cline. Both hardcover and paper back editions will be available. Zyrus' next project is the second edition of the "Authoritative Reference on Buffalo Nickels" by Kevin Flynn. It will be priced at \$35.95.

Any of these publications can be ordered online at www.zyruspress.com or by calling 1-888-622-7823.



South Dakota Quarter

The fifth and final commemorative quarter dollar coin released in 2006 honors South Dakota, the "Mount Rushmore State", and is the 40th coin in the United States Mint's 50-State Quarters Program.

Admitted into the Union on November 2, 1889, South Dakota became the nation's 40th state. The release of this quarter signals the end of the 8th year of the 50-State Quarters Program.

The South Dakota quarter features an image of the state bird, a Chinese ring necked pheasant, in flight above a depiction of the Mount Rushmore National Monument, featuring the faces of four American Presidents: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt and Abraham Lincoln. The design is bordered by heads of wheat. The coin's design also bears the inscriptions "South Dakota" and "1889."

Sculptor Gutzon Borglum began drilling into Mount Rushmore, the 5,725-foot peak rising above Harney National Forest, in 1927. Creation of the "Shrine of Democracy" took 14 years and cost approximately \$1 million, though it is now deemed priceless.

The South Dakota Quarter Advisory Committee began accepting ideas from the citizens of South Dakota via telephone, letters and e-mail. A group of five possible narratives were agreed upon and forwarded to the U.S.

Mint for consideration. The final artistic renderings developed by the sculptor-engravers of the United States Mint and artists in the Mint's Artistic Infusion Program, were returned to South Dakota, and a state-wide vote was conducted. On April 27, 2005, South Dakota Governor M. Michael Rounds announced his recommendation of the "Mount Rushmore and Pheasant" design, echoing the choice of those who participated in the state-wide vote.

The Department of the Treasury approved the design on May 28, 2005. The other design concepts considered during the final selection process were "Mount Rushmore National Monument," featuring a three-quarter view of the famous mountain carving, "American Bison," depicting the classic animal symbol of the west; "Chinese Ring-necked Pheasant" featuring an image of the state bird in flight; and "Mount Rushmore and Bison," which placed an American bison in the foreground and Mt. Rushmore in the background.

* * *



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Liberty Dollars Not Legal Tender, United States Mint Warns Consumers

The U.S. Mint urges consumers considering the purchase or use of "Liberty Dollar" medallions, marketed by the National Organization for the Repeal of the Federal Reserve Act and the Internal Revenue Code (NORFED) to be aware that they are not genuine U.S. Mint bullion coins, and not legal tender. These medallions are privately produced products that are neither backed by, nor affiliated with the U.S. Government. Prosecutors with the Department of Justice have determined that the use of these gold and silver NORFED "Liberty Dollar" medallions as circulating money is a Federal crime.

NORFED is headquartered in Evansville, Indiana, and the medallions reportedly are produced by a private mint in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. NORFED claims more than \$20 million dollars worth of Liberty Dollar coins and notes are in circulation.

Consumers may find advertisements for these medallions confusing. Advertisements refer to the product as "real money" and "currency" and they might look like real money because they:

- Bear the inscriptions "Liberty," "Dollars," "Trust in God" and "USA" and an inscription purporting to denote the year of production.
- Depict images that are similar to U.S. coins, such as the torch on the reverses of the current dime, 1986 Statue of

Liberty Commemorative Silver Dollar and 1993 Bill of Rights Commemorative Half Dollar, and the Liberty Head designs on the obverses of US gold coins from the mid-1800s to the early 1900s.

The advertisements confusingly refer to NORFED "Liberty Dollar" medallions as "legal" and "constitutional". However, under the Constitution (Article I, section 8, clause 5), Congress has the exclusive power to coin money of the US and to regulate its value. The US Mint is the only entity in the United States with the lawful authority to mint and issue legal tender United States coins.

Under 18 U.S.C. § 486, it is a Federal crime to pass, or attempt to pass, any coins of gold or silver intended for use as current money except as authorized by law.

* * *

Bermuda "Shipwreck" Series Continues

[British Royal Mint]

The British Royal Mint in association with the Bermuda Monetary Authority announced that the coins in the "Shipwreck" series will run through 2007. The theme represents the still enchanted reputation of the infamous "Bermuda Triangle" -- the nearly half-million square miles of ocean roughly defined by Bermuda, Puerto Rico and Fort Lauderdale, FL. Struck in sterling silver, each design is elegantly accentuated in 23-karat fine gold. The reverse of each coin will depict one of the famous ships wrecked in the Bermuda Triangle, or along the dangerous coastline for which the Island is so famed.

The series includes designs of four ships that went down... the North Carolina sank in 1880; the Sea Venture went down in 1609; the Pollock Shields floundered in 1915 and the Hunter Galley sank in 1752.

The wreck of the Hunter Galley is located east of the Hogfish Cut, at the western end of Bermuda off Pompano Beach in Sandy's Parish. Few details of the origins of the vessel have been recorded, but it is known that the Clement Conyers commanded the sloop on its passage to South Carolina from the island of St. Eustatius on December 28, 1751.



During the early part of the voyage, gale force winds damaged the rigging, sails and top timbers, forcing the ship to make for Bermuda to repair the damage. The captain, afraid of hitting the reef when another gale blew up on January 9, 1752, had the sails split to avoid being driven by the raging winds. Next day, Bermuda could be seen and the ship headed for port. Treacherous weather conditions continued, however, and the ship had to be precariously moored in Hogfish Cut. During the night the force of the winds battered the ship to the point that the Hunter Galley finally sank.

At the time of loss, the ship was engaged in trade between Britain's American Colonies and those in the Bahamas and West Indies and identified in a shipping register as a sloop of 40 tons, carrying 5 guns, built in Bermuda in 1747.

The silver Continuity Collection will be limited to 15,000 collections. Collectors will also receive a map showing the sites of the wrecks around the Bermuda coast, together with a book detailing a marine guide with photos and historical information.

Prices of the currently available 2006 silver Proofs are \$89.95. Orders and inquiries should be addressed to the British Royal Mint 1-800-221-1215.

* * *

Borat's Funny Money

{Wisconsin State Journal}

You may have seen Borat, the new film in which British comedian Sacha Baron Cohen plays a crude, mustachioed character from Kazakhstan. Not even Cohen, who repeatedly lampoons that former Soviet Republic, could have come up with this:

The Central Bank of Kazakhstan misspelled the Cyrillic letters for "bank" on its new 2,000 and 5,000 tenge notes (worth about \$15 and \$40 respectively).

The bank says it will gradually remove the notes from circulation. Members of parliament are up in arms and say the mistake has "political undertones." Collect this money if you can -- it may have value someday.

* * *

New Advision DVDs

[Numismatic News]

Advision Inc. of Boulder Colorado, has more than 50 new DVD coin collecting titles available on its website, www.coinvideo.com. These titles have been sponsored by numismatic collector organizations, including the ANA, which offers Numismatic Theatre Presentations and the Maynard Sundman Lecture Series.

Those interested in early large cents and half cents are offered 10 new titles presented at the Early American Coppers Convention in Palm Beach, FL.

Topics offered can help people interested in coin collecting learn more about the hobby, including world coins and paper money. These lectures are researched about topics you will seldom see in books or the numismatic publications. The presentations have been professionally videotaped and mastered on a DVD that can be played on a home player or computer. Retail price for each title is \$24.95, with discounts available to coin clubs. To learn more, call 800-876-2320.



Queen's 80th Birthday Celebration

In celebration of the 80th birthday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the British Royal Mint offers a

special numismatic tribute to Her Majesty by creating a Silver Proof Continuity Collection. A wide variety of important events, which have occurred during Her Majesty's life will be represented by the 16 coins in the 2006 silver Proof Continuity Collection. The coins are available on a subscription basis. Call 800-221-1215.

To be a Queen

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to live in a castle and have your every need taken care of? To give you a peak at Royalty life "Tidbits of Dane County" newspaper went behind the scenes of Buckingham Palace.

- "Buck House" as the Royal family refers to its official residence, has nearly 600 rooms. The list includes 19 state rooms, 52 principal bedrooms, 188 staff bedrooms, 92 offices and 78 bathrooms. Of course, such a huge home requires a large staff to help keep it running. And while a very elaborate American household might employ a dozen or so maids and butlers, Buckingham Palace has no less than 645 full-time employees to make sure the Queen's tea is warm and her corgis dogs are exercised. The premises is also home to a police station, an on-call doctor, a post office, a fire brigade, and a chapel and chaplain.
- The Queen receives approximately \$20 million per year from the taxpayers of the United Kingdom, but that's a shoe-string budget considering all the first-class travel, sterling silver dog dishes and

staff uniforms it requires to properly be a monarch. Luckily, the Royal Family has additional income thanks to the Queen's blue chip stocks, real estate investments and collections of priceless art and jewelry.

- Vacuum cleaners are banned at Buck House before 9 a.m., so staff clean the royal carpets using stiff brushes. Also, all employees are required to walk down corridors in one of the foot-wide margins on either edge of the castle's carpets. The center section of the rugs are reserved for royal feet only.
- The Queen takes care of business during the morning hours, which sometimes means standing on her feet for hours at a time if she is officially receiving people for their appointment to officer. This is obviously thirsty work, because every day just prior to lunch (served promptly at 1:00), Her Majesty has a gin and Dubonnet with two ice cubes and a lemon twist.
- While the Queen awaits the water to boil for her morning tea, she likes to scan the headlines of the various British newspapers. A staff member brings them to her daily, stacked in the order of her preference. "Sporting Life," a paper dedicated to horse racing, is always on top. Queen Elizabeth enjoys working the crossword puzzles in the "Daily Telegraph" so every morning it is left on her breakfast tray, with its puzzle page folded open and neatly ironed into place. Even though the Queen is served freshly baked scones every day for tea, she never eats them; she feeds them to her beloved corgis.
- State dinners are taken very seriously at Buckingham Palace, and a detailed protocol is followed. The polished mahogany table in the ballroom can seat 160 guests, and is so wide that under-butlers must wear paper covers over their shoes and walk across the top of the table in order to place the candelabras and floral arrangements. Silverware is placed exactly one

centimeter away from the table's edge, and is measured by the Master of the Household with a ruler before guests are seated.

- Most of us take a summer vacation for a week or two, which involves a lot of packing. But when the Queen goes on summer hiatus, it's a major undertaking. Elizabeth II, her family, and her court spend from August 1st to October 1st at Balmoral Castle in Scotland. Her staff must pack everything from fine china, to TV sets, to the contents of the liquor cabinet, and her extensive wardrobe.
- One staple item of the Queen's wardrobe that is packed whether she is going on an overnight visit or a 3 week excursion to Australia is a black dress. One never knows when someone of importance might pass away, and the Queen must be ready to return home at a moment's notice, fully dressed in mourning clothes.

Tradition

VS

Tradition

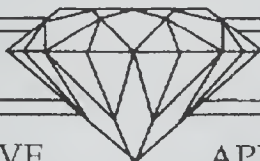


Ref. Mort Reed's
Odd & Curious

Because it is traditional to mount a horse on the left -- and because side-saddles are designed to carry the rider to the left -- it was necessary to break the tradition of facing her Majesty to the right on English coins. The crown of 1952 shows Queen Elizabeth and her mount, Winston, facing left.

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Manufacturing South African Proof Coins



The numismatic coin manufacturing process in South Africa (SA) is quite different from circulation coining.

The South African numismatic coins are manufactured from Bronze plated steel, Nickel-plated bronzes, Sterling silver (925Ag), 22 ct. gold and 24 ct gold (999.9 Au). 24 ct. Gold coins are manufactured according to the following process phases:

Casting: The gold is cast in a vertical continuous induction furnace and the crucible and casting dies are manufactured from very high-grade graphite. A starter bar is placed in the die, which acts as a plug during the smelting process. The molten gold attaches to the starter bar, initiating the casting process. As soon as the correct temperature is reached, the starter bar is very slowly withdrawn from the die. The molten gold solidifies in the die and as it is pulled out of the die the molten gold flows into the die hence, the name continuous casting. The result of the cast is a drawn bar with dimensions and length dependant on the amount of gold.

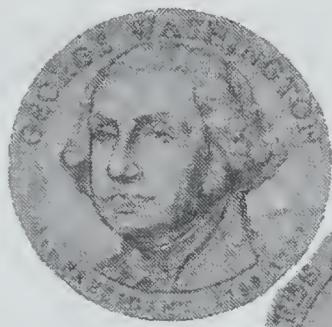
Rolling: After the casting process, the drawn bar is washed and then rolled to the correct thickness. This is done on a rolling mill. In this process, the drawn bar is rolled into a strip. By passing the strip between the two rollers, the strip length is increased as the thickness is decreased. Two operators control this process manually, one placing the strip into the mill and the other removing the strip from the mill. It's very important that the strip is handled with extreme care so as to prevent surface contamination as well as avoid scratches to the strip surface. The percentage of reduction per operation is very important and should not be more than 10% of the thickness of the strip. When the correct thickness is achieved, the strip is washed and inspected for any surface errors. The strip is now ready to be blanked.

Blanking: This is the process whereby round discs are cut from the strip. The blanking machine, fitted with a punch and a cutter, according

to the specific diameter required, is operated manually by one operator. It's important that the strip is handled with extreme care so that the surface is not scratched and the maximum yield of blanks is acquired. After the blanks are cut, they are individually inspected, the inscription criteria being, weight, diameter and visual acceptance. Blanks are placed in an annealing furnace to relieve stress. The furnace is an open-ended steel belt furnace, equipped with heating and cooling zones that are protected by a continuous flow of inert gas. After stress relieving, the blanks are placed in a heated acid solution to eliminate any surface contamination. The blanks are ready to be polished.

Polishing: This is the process whereby the surface of each blank is polished to a very high luster and an excellent surface finish is acquired. The blanks are packed in a special fixture to separate them from one another to prevent damage. The loaded fixture is placed in a rotating, multi-sided tumbler, together with special soap and polishing media. The polishing media contains minute stainless steel balls of different shapes. Loading during this phase is the last time that the blanks or coins are handled with bare fingers. Special finger cots are used to handle the blanks during the manufacturing process. The blanks are removed from the tumbler and fixture and the luster and surface finish are inspected. If the blanks are acceptable they are individually hand-dried and packed in a special tray. They are now ready for the coining process.

Coining: The blank is embossed with two dies simultaneously, one for the obverse (front) and the other for the reverse (back). A serrated collar restricts the sideways flow of the material. Coining is undertaken with multi-stroke knuckle presses. Depending on the diameter and detail of the coin, the strokes can vary from three to eleven strokes per coin. The coining operator individually selects each blank for the coining process. The operator places the blank in the machine and the machine is activated. After the piece is struck, the operator removes the coin and inspects it under a magnifying glass. If the coin is accepted, it is placed in a special storage tray. After each coin is struck, the dies are cleaned with a special soft cloth to remove any residue from the die faces.



Dollar Coins



Get Another Chance

[Desert Sun Newspaper article
submitted by Gene Johnson]

Can George Washington and Thomas Jefferson succeed where Susan B. Anthony and Sacagawea failed? The U.S. Mint is hoping America's presidents will win acceptance, finally, for the maligned dollar coin.

The public will get the chance to decide starting in February when the first of the new coins, bearing the image of the first president, is introduced.

Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson and James Madison are scheduled to grace the coin in 2007, with a different president appearing every three months.

The series will honor four presidents each year, in the order they served in office. Each president will appear on only one coin, except for Grover Cleveland, who will be on two because he was the only president to serve nonconsecutive terms. To be depicted on a coin a president must have been dead for at least two years.

The idea of rotating designs borrows from the highly successful 50-state quarter program. Since its launch in 1999, this program has featured five state designs each year in the order the state joined the union.

The quarter program has introduced millions of people to coin collecting. The Mint hopes the presidential program will enjoy similar success.

The designs were made public last month during a ceremony at the Smithsonian Institution's National Portrait Gallery, home of some of the famous paintings that served as models for the coins.

The coins will be the same size as the Sacagawea dollar -- a little larger than a quarter -- and the same golden color as the Sacagawea. The image of the president will be on one side and the Statue of Liberty on the other. Will all this be enough to make the presidential dollars a success? The Susan B. Anthony, introduced in 1979 and the Sacagawea, introduced in 2000, have been flops, at least in terms of gaining acceptance as circulating coins.

Edmund C. Moy, the director of the Mint, is optimistic, saying a number of things have changed since the Sacagawea launch six years ago. Rising prices mean it takes more quarters to feed the parking meter and vending machines. People might now be more willing to carry the dollar coin to replace four quarters.

George Washington First President 1789 - 1797

[U.S. Mint]

Following the ratification of the Constitution of the United States, the Electoral College unanimously elected George Washington to serve as the United States' first President.

The former General and Commander in Chief of the Continental Army served two terms as president holding the office from 1789-1797.

On June 1, 1789, President Washington signed the country's first Act of Congress, concerning the administration of oaths. In 1791, President Washington presided over the Nation's first recorded Cabinet meeting, which included Alexander Hamilton as the United States' first Secretary of the Treasury and Thomas Jefferson as the first Secretary of State.

President Washington himself laid the cornerstone for the U.S. Capitol building in Washington DC on September 18, 1793.

Washington also laid the groundwork for the United States earliest foreign policy stance when he issued his Declaration of Neutrality in 1793, a direct response to the emerging conflict between England and France.



Stacks to Auction 1913 Liberty Nickel

The finest known 1913 Liberty Head nickel will be put up for auction next

month at the Florida United Numismatists Convention in Orlando, Florida.

It is expected to bring bids in the multiple millions of dollars.

Cosigned by Bruce Morelan, the coin is the Eliasberg Collection specimen, though Morelan likes to call it the Eliasberg-Legend specimen in honor of Legend Numismatics, Lincroft, NJ and Laura Sperber, who helped him with acquisitions of major rarities.

Sperber helped put the spotlight on the 1913 Liberty Head nickels by sponsoring a 2003 special reception at which all four of the pieces with known whereabouts were displayed for guests prior to the ANA convention in Baltimore. At the very same convention, the fifth piece showed up in the hands of the heirs of the last known owner, bringing all five together for public view.

Examples of the 1913 Liberty Head nickel have reportedly been sold for \$3 million in private treaty transactions, so this coin is expected to set a new record, perhaps challenging the \$7,590,020 price achieved in

2002 by the only legal 1933 Saint-Gaudens \$20 gold piece or the \$4,140,000 price paid for the Childs specimen of the 1804 auctioned in 1999.

The Stack's auction will be held at the Renaissance Hotel at Sea World in Orlando on January 2, 2007.

For more information, call 866-811-1804 or check website at www.stack's.com.

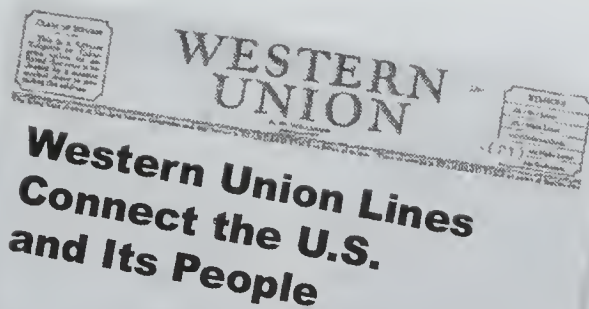
{source: Numismatic News}

A Merry Christmas To You



In 1125 A.D. the coinage of England consisted of an over abundance of pennies of a base metal. King Henry ordered that all Mint employees should be mutilated in their limbs as their punishment.

Bishop Roger invited all men of the Mint to Winchester for Christmas and removed the right hand of each man.



The Civil War provided the first real test of the transcontinental telegraph line that was cobbled together by Western Union through acquisition of former competitors.

In 1866, Western Union introduced the first stock ticket, giving stock brokers rapid access to New York Stock Exchange quotes. Four years later the company launched a time service, helping standardize the time around the country.

The telegram business grew in popularity through the 1920s and 1930s, quickly sending good news and bad. In 1929, some 200 million telegrams were sent and in those years, a telegram was much cheaper than a long-distance telephone call.

Years ago, Mother's Day and Valentine's Day were the two biggest days for telegrams. On those two days, it was a treat to see a brown-uniformed messenger, perhaps on a bicycle, approach your front door. On other days, there was often concern at what the message in the pale-colored envelope said.

A straight telegram consisted of 10 words or less. A day letter was 25 words or less and could be delivered whenever the delivery person was in that particular area of town. An efficient messenger could deliver up to 200 telegrams in a day and was well paid for his day's work. Every 4-week month he could earn \$120 and every 5-week month he earned \$150... not a bad income for the time.



Morse Proves Telegraph to Congress May 24, 1844.

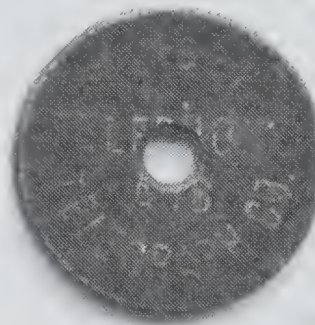
The primary business was, however, the company's money-transfer system, where anyone could send money, via telegraph lines, to any Western Union

location in the U.S. and later around the world.

As time progressed, Western Union introduced teletypewriter and facsimile service, Mailgrams and transcontinental microwave radio beam service to replace all those poles and lines and communications satellites. It became the first company to have five satellites in orbit.



London Telegraph token



Sunset Telephone & Telegraph Co. token

As technology evolved, telephones of all sorts and e-mail reduced the importance of the telegram. In January, 2006, Western Union discontinued telegram services, marking the end of a storied era.

ref. Reminisce Magazine & the internet



"A Christmas Story" 20 Years and Still Going Strong

by Ron Calkins #34L

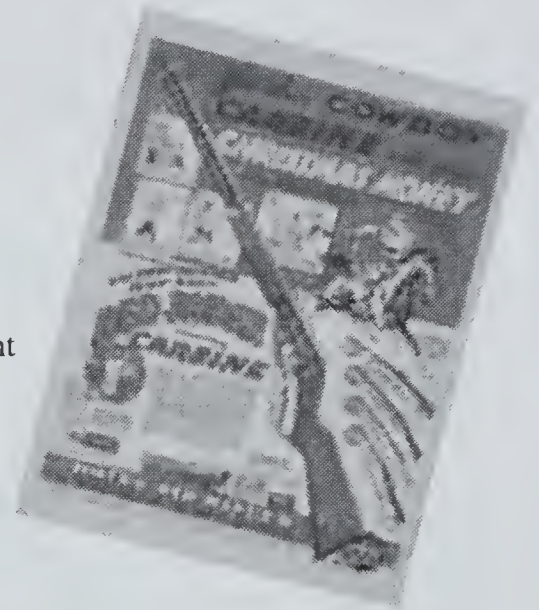
It wouldn't be the holiday season without watching "A Christmas Story" on television. This annual holiday classic is celebrating its 20th anniversary.

Parents and kids can both relate to this movie... it brings back memories of events that happened when I was a youngster. Many people don't realize how often we look back and reminisce about our childhood... especially around Christmas time. We frequently say to our grand kids "When I was your age..." or even in conversations with friends, we often look back at earlier times.

"A Christmas Story" is a blue-collar, middle class Americana with a warped sense of humor. We all, at times, felt like the cute little kid who wanted a toy that your parents wouldn't allow (or couldn't afford)... and sometime we may have had to deal with a neighborhood bully... and you can probably remember the first time you accidentally swore in front of your parents.

Everyone who has seen the movie will remember that all young Ralphie wants for Christmas is a Daisy Red Ryder BB gun, which he describes as the "Holy Grail of Christmas gifts."

An old advertisement promoting the Red Ryder BB gun.



Filming began in January 1983

The house where the movie was filmed is located on 11th Street in Cleveland, Ohio. This house, built in 1895, has the distinction of being used for the exterior shots in the filming of the movie.

The local Higbee's Department Store, was redecorated for the Christmas season to the amazement of the patrons. The weather wasn't being cooperative and for the outdoor scenes this required the crew to provide their own snow (made from potato flakes, shredded vinyl and fire fighter's foam).

The interior shots were filmed at Magder Studios in Toronto, Canada. Other shots took place in St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada. Filming of the movie was completed in March of 1983.

In December 2004 the house was sold on eBay to Brian Jones, owner and operator

of Red Rider Leg Lamps and the house was recently opened as a tourist attraction.



Shown above is a Red Ryder Western Hero Cartoon Celebrities silver medallion about the size of a silver dollar. The Little Beaver Cartoon Celebrities medallion is shown on the reverse. Made in USA by AMC 1 troy ounce .999 fine silver cartoon coin.



This is a brass Red Ryder Lucky Coin. The front shows Red Ryder, the fictional cowboy from the 1930s and 1940s in comics and movies.

The token may have been a "give-away" from the Daisy Mfg. Company. Giveaways were popular during this era.

"Be Sure To Drink Your Ovaltine"

This 1935 Orphan Annie Secret Society Decoder Pinback measures 1-3/8" and has "Parisian Novelty Company (the manufacturer's) name on the back.

Little Orphan Annie's
Secret Society Decoder



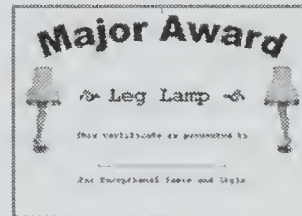
In the lid of every jar of Ovaltine was every kid's dream – kids could send in the seal and become an official member of "Little Orphan Annie's Secret Society. Much to Ralphie's dismay, his important secret message turned out to be "Be sure to drink your Ovaltine".

A Major Award

The "old man" (Ralphie's father) was the quintessential dad torn between his authoritarian tendencies and his child-like enthusiasm. He loved to chase "clinkers" in his coal burning furnace.



Probably the most remembered part in the movie was the "old man's" giddy anticipation and unveiling of what he declares to be his "Major Award".



His Major Award, of course, turns out to be a lamp in the shape of a leg. That doesn't stop his continued enthusiasm "Would you look at THAT... it's beautiful!!"

A Long Road to Success

The movie was slated for release on November 20, 1983 and opened in 866 theaters. On opening weekend it grossed \$2,072,473, and had a total gross of \$19,294,144, a far cry from that year's leader "Star Wars: Episode VI – Return of the Jedi" which grossed \$309,125,409. MGM was betting on its release of "Yentl"

for the holiday season and, therefore, didn't substantially promote "A Christmas Story".

It wasn't until it came out on video and began to be shown on TV during the holidays that the movie was "discovered".

Daisy Company Shunned Publicity

Despite the popularity of the movie and the zest for Daisy and Red Ryder memorabilia among collectors, the Daisy Company shied away from representing the gun as a toy.

Joe Murfin, vice president of marketing, said a BB gun was an appropriate gift, assuming the parent is willing to take the time to work with the young person and teach them gun safety and marksmanship.

Toy consultant, Chris Byrne, wasn't surprised that the Daisy Company didn't boast about the gun's popularity. "They are a classic American brand, but anytime you talk about selling guns to kids in today's society, they are pariah."

In 2003 the Daisy Company settled a lawsuit brought by the government that alleged defects in 7.5 million high velocity, multi-pump pellet BB rifles marketed to shooters 16 and up. As part of the settlement, the company agreed to launch a \$12.5 million safety campaign and put additional warning labels on BB guns.

About the Author

Jean Shepherd wrote this seasonal classic and also narrated it and played a cameo role in the department store scene. "A Christmas Story" was based on Shepherd's book "In God We Trust All Others Pay Cash," first published in 1966. It was a collection of short stories originally published in Playboy Magazine.

When Director, Bob Clark, (Porky's) first read "In God We Trust All Others Pay Cash", he knew that he wanted to do a movie based on it. He contacted Shepherd and expressed his interest in doing a movie from the book, but it took almost 10 years to happen. Studios weren't interested, but when his movie "Porky's" became a hit, he had the leverage needed to get MGM to allow him to make "A Christmas Story" in exchange for doing another Porky's movie.

From 1955 to 1977 Shepherd had a radio show in New York. During his radio days he'd enter the studio, sit down behind the microphone and talk... sometimes about trips he had taken to Australia, the Middle East and even Peru where he spent time in the jungles living with a tribe of headhunters.

Other times he talked about people -- what made them tick, how the world was changing and quite often he would tell a "kid" story, always starting out by saying "I was this kid see..." and then he would proceed to tell a story like how they almost got shot stealing melons from a melon patch, or how they got Flick to stick his tongue to a flag pole in the dead of winter. His stories were endless. He also liked to tell stories about his days in the Army when he was in the Signal Corps like the time someone put a buzz bomb in the radar unit. No matter what he talked about, it always captured his audience's attention.

Times Have Changed, But Kids Really Haven't

The toys are different now. The Lionel Trains have been replaced by Playstation. Record players are replaced by computers with chat rooms and playing MP3s. Roller skates no longer fall off your shoe halfway down the block -- they ARE the shoe. Baseball cards

have taken a back seat to Yu-Gi-Oh cards and never find their way onto the spokes of your bicycle held firm with a clothes pin.

Kids on the other hand, still manage to find mischief at every turn and continue to want... and get... more than they need for Christmas.



This holiday season when you watch “A Christmas Story” on TV, you’ll appreciate knowing a little more about the movie.

A Dinkie Story

by Gene Johnson #105L

Once upon a time in the beautiful lake city of Madison, Wisconsin, the horse and buggy and animal-drawn wagons were about the only forms of transportation in town during the 1880s.

Madison had been around awhile, having politically aced out Belmont as the Wisconsin state capital in 1849, and as the city spread out, it became apparent that some form of public transportation was needed.

Of course, if you were well heeled, your choice would be the brightly painted omnibuses of the Beverly Jefferson Company. These taxi cab type stagecoaches took you door-to-door, but at an exorbitant fee of 25¢.

A politician by the name of Keyes is credited as being the guy who dreamed up the idea of a Madison Street railway, with mule-drawn carriages running on steel tracks up Wilson and King Streets to the University Avenue corner. Once these tracks were laid, routes were extended to Camp Randall in 1884.

The public was excited to have big city transportation, yet few people used the line even though the fare was only 5¢. Lots of people griped about the steel rails in the street, because the rails back then were not like the railroad tracks of today... they were a narrow channel iron in the shape of an inverted “T”.

Around the nation, many cities had horse-drawn streetcars, but Madison chose to use mules, perhaps because mules were more plentiful in the area, or maybe because the mules were considered stronger and more durable than horses.

The Madison streetcars were 14 feet long with two wooden benches down the inside, and were pulled over the steel rails by a single mule in the flat stretches, with an additional mule hitched on to pull up hills. The stage coach type streetcars were disdainfully labeled “dinkies” by the public and the mule line was not much of a success.

The mule line went broke and folded in 1892, perhaps hastened by the eminent arrival of electric streetcars later that year.

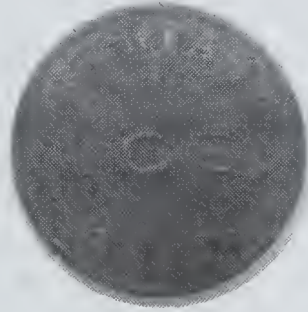


About the only remaining trace of the little Madison mule car line is a handful of plastic-type tokens (vulcanite, a kind of celluloid). Looking back from today’s perspective, this little line was really rustic. The mules wore bells around their necks to alert the traveling public of the streetcar’s approach.



Frozen Assets

by Phyllis Calkins #99L



While visiting our local Historical Society, I noticed an old ice box, which brought back memories of the ice man who delivered ice to my grandfather's house.... Oh how good a chip of ice tasted on a hot summer day! My folks didn't have an ice box in our house – we had a spring in the basement, so we tied a rope on the milk bottle and lowered it into the spring to keep it cool. (I was in High School before we got a 'lectric ice box'). Today's younger generation can't imagine what life was like back in the '30s and '40s.

Summer Cooling Dates Back to Roman Times

While stories of hauling snow down from the mountains for summer cooling dates back to Roman times, the wide-spread practice of chilling food to preserve it is less than 2 centuries old.

The industry of selling natural ice in America began in Boston in 1807 when a merchant sent a brig-load of ice to the West Indies to help relieve a yellow fever outbreak. The industry rapidly expanded to ship cut ice to many of America's southern ports for food preservation and by 1880 about 8 million tons of ice

were harvested nationally according to the Census Office. In many areas people spent as much for ice as for fuel.

Breweries were the single largest group of consumers followed by the meat packing industry. Lager beers, highly popular in Wisconsin, needed low temperatures to age the beer and for storage. Americans, unlike Europeans, preferred to drink their beer cold. Wisconsin lakes were an ice-cutter's dream in that many of them were dammed impoundments to provide waterpower. This invariably raised the natural water levels that eliminated much of the marshy shore and weedy waters. Most of these lakes also had sufficient water movement to provide solid, clear ice without the inclusion of air bubbles and the ice was almost always 12 –14" thick, which is what the industry wanted.

Ice Harvesting Technology Was Pretty Basic

What kept harvested ice frozen was its sheer bulk -- the more that could be tightly packed together, the longer it stayed cold. Although the principles of mechanical refrigeration were generally understood in Ben Franklin's day, practical application was decades away. Ice houses, where stock could be stored year round, had double outer walls separated by an insulator such as sawdust. An opening at the top vented the latent heat which was released by melting water. Even so, the melt loss was huge. In the early days 90% of the ice harvest disappeared before it could be sold.

Despite these problems, ice revolutionized the way Americans ate and drank and eventually the way they did business. Soon everybody wanted ice --

Ice cream and cold beer became summertime staples. A dependable ice supply made it possible to deliver fresh meat,

seafood, dairy products and produce to distant markets and keep it safe from spoilage in home ice boxes. Fruit growers and meat packers capable of shipping refrigerated products worldwide became huge multi-national corporations.



This Ice Men's Union Local No. 702 token promoted Charles Graydon for Sanitary District Trustee.



Local Ice Industry

Just how many ice cutting businesses existed in Wisconsin is impossible to estimate. Records from the Mazomanie Sickle newspaper first mentioned that T. W. Wilson and T.T. Huntington planned to put up a new ice house on Lake Marion in 1876. Lake Marion is located near Mazomanie, Wis.

In January 1926, William Craney commenced harvesting ice on Lake Marion. In February 1932, Robert Kerl of Black Earth bought the business from Craney, his past employer. This was a year after a motorized saw had cut off Kerl's leg mid-calf while cutting ice. He was driven to St. Mary's Hospital where he demanded that it be reattached against his doctor's opinion. The doctors followed his guidance and the reattachment was successful.

Kerl's ice house of cabled-together pole logs and boards was situated on the bank of Lake Marion and his delivery territory

included Spring Green, Arena, Marxville, Mazomanie, Black Earth and many rural areas.

The main markets for his ice were home iceboxes, taverns, meat markets, ice refrigerated railroad cars and filling station pop coolers. The creameries and meat markets had substantial ice houses that Kerl filled in the winter so they had convenient ice available to them for extended periods of time.

The ice cutting from Lake Marion and actual filling of the ice house occurred over a few week's time and required the labor of about 10 employees. Once the ice was about 12" thick, the men initially made a shallow crack in the ice with the motorized saw to set the cutting dimensions. Then they would hand push the motorized saw cutting through all but the bottom inch thickness of ice. A splitting tool was used to slit off the individual blocks and long-handled pike poles employed to push the 200+ pound blocks of ice down a channel. The floating blocks were prodded onto a ramp that had a motorized elevator to haul them to the ice house. Tongs were used in the ice house to move the blocks in place where they stacked about 10' high. The ice house had an earthen bottom and after the ice was all loaded, it was insulated on the sides and top by a layer of sawdust obtained from a Spring Green sawmill.

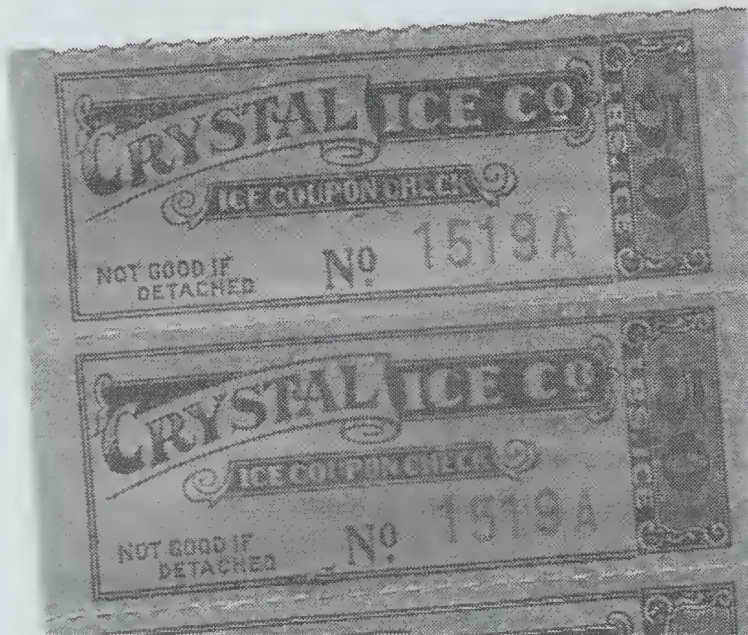
Once the main ice house and his customers' ice houses were full, business slowed until the weather began to warm and then people wanted ice delivered. The large blocks were taken from the ice house onto a platform where they were washed free of sawdust and dirt, then loaded onto a delivery truck with ice tongs.

At the age of 13, Norbert Kerl helped his dad in the ice business and recalls that the preparation for delivery began about

4 a.m. with the delivery run beginning about 6 a.m. and lasting until the route was done.

Customers put Ice cards in their window showing different amounts of ice so the delivery men knew how much ice a customer wanted before walking to the door.

The other side of this Fernwood Ice & Coal Co. card shows amounts of 75/100.



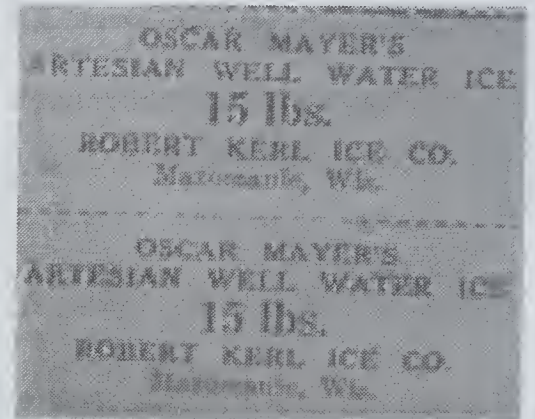
People purchased ice tickets for 10, 25 or 50 pound amounts. The ticket was hung by the ice box and was punched with the amount delivered. People paid once their ticket was completely punched for the allotted amount.

During cooler weather, deliveries were made 2-3 times a week and in the hot summer months, deliveries occurred every other day.

In December, 1932, a new ice house was built on the old site of the old structure at Lake Marion and a year later, Kerl built an addition to his ice house. In 1938

he was required to pay \$10 rental for the ground on which his ice house was located.

A new 12x26' building was added near Kerl's office building in April of 1943 for the purpose of storing ice, which was delivered in 13-ton truck lots. The new building held approximately 20 tons of artesian-well-water ice. He is purchasing the ice from the Oscar Meyer Company in Madison this year rather than cutting it from Lake Marion.



In 1945 Kerl built another ice house which is still standing in the village of Mazomanie, using portions of the old ice house to construct it. He moved his business and also changed to providing artificial ice and ice cubes purchased primarily from Oscar Meyer because of the labor shortage to cut natural ice during World War II.

Kerl coupled his ice business with delivering coal which had a seasonal complement for labor needs. Finally in 1948 he quit the business and returned to his former career of being a Mason.

Ice Tokens Are Scarce

Ice tokens are seldom found. Shown on the next page are a couple of unusual ice tokens that are a part of Gene Johnson's collection.. Gene is a token collector from Wisconsin Rapids.



CIPSCO Certified Ice Refrigeration brass token.



"Costs Less
Spend the Difference"

The Harvesting Business Melted Away Without a Trace

Home delivery of ice continued for a long time. In the 1920s, apartment buildings were still constructed with ice doors opening into each kitchen. In the

'30s though, electric refrigerators replaced ice boxes in most city households.

The ice harvesting industry eventually became the victim of its own success. With increasing public health and water pollution concerns, it became tougher to find suitable supplies. By World War II Kerl (and others) had largely switched to mechanical methods both to make ice and refrigerate shipments.

Some non-electrified rural areas still relied on ice deliveries until the 1950s, but the ice harvesting business eventually melted away without a trace.

Sources:

Mazomanie Historical Society
Ice Industry in Black Earth Creek Watershed
by Mindy Habecker
Isthmus newspaper 3/27,06
Tokens by Gene Johnson
ice card & Ice Harvesting postcard from Tom Casper.

Old postcard -- Ice Harvesting in Worthington, MN



A Lasting Impression

By Tom Casper #982

Schwaab, Inc., headquartered in Wauwatosa, WI is celebrating its quasiquicentennial in 2006. It made the Century Club of Milwaukee businesses in 1981, quite a feat for any business. For 125 years it has been a major manufacturer of rubber stamps, stencils, and seals. It has thrived in the rubber stamp industry with plants now in Seattle, WA, Burbank, Concord, and Fresno, CA, and Palatine, IL. With 300 employees it remains family owned. Its 100 salespeople make door-to-door calls on clients such as banks and law offices.

Andrew Schwaab founded the company in 1881 under the name of Northwestern Stamp Works. It opened with branches in St. Paul, MN and Chicago, IL. Finding it difficult to operate in three locations, the two branches were sold with the operations consolidated in Milwaukee. In 1888 the company incorporated and changed its name to Schwaab Stamp & Seal Co. It moved to a number of different locations in downtown Milwaukee before moving to present location at 11415 W. Burleigh St. in 1960.



This aluminum \$1 good-for token was a sample of the tokens made by Schwaab.

But its what the company made in the last part of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century that piques the interest of coin collectors, specifically those that specialize in tokens and medals. The company became known for is souvenir badges and medals, watch fobs, dog licenses, police and fire department badges, trade tokens, luggage checks, key tags, Masonic pennies, time checks, and coat checks. These are the items clamored after by exnumists. Most of the badges and medals were hallmarked. Unfortunately, the other pieces were not. There is neither a record of all the pieces they made, nor the quantity or the die combinations used. Old Schwaab catalogs are one source to identify the unmarked Schwaab-made pieces.

The earliest Milwaukee police badges were 6-pointed stars and were made up to 1901. They are hallmarked Northwestern Stamp Works. After 1901 they made the shield style badge and marked it Schwaab Stamp & Seal Co. This is the current style worn by the Milwaukee Police Department.

This two-piece brass souvenir badge, pictures Juneau's Cabin, and was issued for the Milwaukee Homecoming August 3-7, 1909. It is marked Schwabb on the back.



One type of badge that Schwaab is famous for is the brass, two-piece, heart-shaped souvenir badge. They can be found for events in almost all states with dates ranging from 1895 to 1926,



Schwaab was once the largest producer of watch fobs. This Schwaab marked piece was made for Aug. Reichman Saloon & Bowling Alley, 178 Logan Ave., Milwaukee. It was issued between 1909 and 1915.

The tokens, medals and badges, produced by Schwaab were for events and organizations throughout the U.S. It is the beauty and high quality of engraving that make these pieces so desirable. More than 125 different pieces are known. Schwaab stopped regular production of



This souvenir medal was issued for the benefit of the public library of Waukesha, Wis.

It was made from the first sheet steel rolled in the state of Wisconsin on November 22nd, 1901. The medal is unmarked but pictured in a Schwaab catalog.



badges and tokens in the 1950's. While there were other diesinkers in Milwaukee, none can compare to the exquisite workmanship of Schwaab pieces. Now it is up to the collector to preserve the craftsmanship and legacy of this famous Milwaukee area company for future generations.

Additional information on Schwaab can be found in the December 1979 issue of the TAMS Journal, Vol. 19, No. 6, pages 232-235.

* * *

It's a fact!

The 12 days of Christmas have gotten pricer again. The cost of items given by a "True Love" who repeats all the song's verses costs more than ever --

\$75,122 for all 364 items, up from \$72,608 in 2005, PNC Financial Services Group said.

Prices for the partridge, two turtle doves, three French hens, six geese and seven swans didn't change, but higher wages made Lords a-leaping, ladies dancing and pipers piping costlier.

* * *

At a gas station in Sheboygan, a woman's attempt to pass a counterfeit \$20 bill was foiled when she realized she had forgotten to print both sides of the bill.



Tokens of Affection

[The Numismatist]

Throughout the ages, people have exchanged gifts that express and celebrate tender feelings – love, friendship, remembrance. These demonstrations of affection have included thimbles, rings, carved spoons and other keepsakes.

In the late 1700s in Great Britain, “engraved coins” as they were called, were given as presents. Most were copper pieces smoothed on both sides and engraved. These “love tokens” came into vogue in America around the time of the Civil War.

By definition, a love token is a circulating coin that has had the design removed from one or both sides, then is hand-engraved with initials, names, sayings, quotations or special dates. It is a “unique, fascinating interesting... physical expression of an affection that exists between two people,” said Lloyd Entenmann, author of *Love Tokens as Engraved Coins*.

These popular pieces were made from practically all denominations of coins.



Reverse
“United States of America 1873”

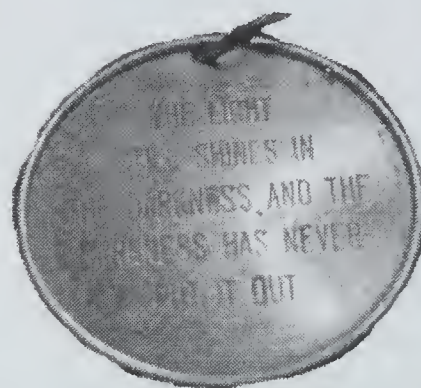


“Mama”
Love Token

During the late 1800s, a man earned 10 cents a day. As a result most love tokens on U.S. coins were engraved on similar denomination coins, particularly the Liberty Seated Dime. These silver coins were softer, thus easier to engrave, than cents and nickels.

Gold coins were also used but not as frequently, considering the value that a love token on a \$1.00 gold coin represented.

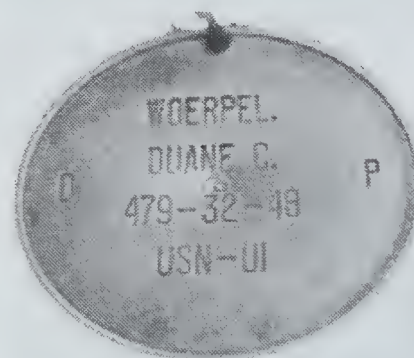
The quality of the engraving can range from crude to skillful and quite ornate.



Woerpel. Diane C.
479-32-48 USN.

rev. “The Light Still Shines in the Darkness and the Darkness has never put it out.”

U.S. Navy Dog
tag Love Token



Many Love Tokens were made into jewelry, especially necklaces, pins, earrings, bracelets, cuff links and watch fobs.



Tokens from Gene
Johnson Collection

Coin Club Meetings

Antioch, IL Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 3rd Monday of each month at Antioch Library, 757 Main St, Antioch, IL. Contact: James Koutsoures 847-395-0599.

Barron County Coin Club

Meets at 8:00 p.m. on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the School Administration Bldg., 700 Augusta St., Rice Lake. Contact Barron County Coin Club, P.O. Box 256, Chetek, WI 54728.

Chippewa Valley Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 on the 1st Thursday of each month in basement of Parks Rec. Bldg., 1300 1st Ave. in Eau Claire.
e-mail 54701.com/coinclub or PO Box 2140 Eau Claire, WI 54702.

Fishbowl Wooden Nickel Coin Club

Meets the 3rd Thursday (April-October); at the Siren Sr. Center, 23943 State Road 35, Siren, 7:00 traders; 8:00 business meeting. Contact Gary Schauls, 2702 150th St., Luck, WI 54853-3811. Phone 715-472-2002.

Fond du Lac Coin Club

Meets on the 2nd Tuesday (May thru Sept.) at the Senior Center East 2nd Street in Fond du Lac. Contact Fond du Lac Coin Club, PO Box 254, Oshkosh, WI 54903.

Fox Valley Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at Prime Time Club, 11150 Valley Road, Menasha.

Kenosha Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 1st Thursday of each month (except July & August) at 3030 39th Ave, Kenosha. Contact: Jerry Binsfeld Phone: 262-657-4653.

Kettle Moraine Coin & Stamp Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd Thursday of each month at Silverbrook Middle School, 120 N. Silverbrook Drive in West Bend. Youth meeting at 6:30. Contact: Dave Hunsicker 262-338-6064.

Lake County Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Warren Township Library, O'Plaine Rd., Gurnee, IL. Contact: Leslie Hanulla Phone 847-662-1955.

Lakeland Coin & Stamp Club

Meets at 6:45 the first and third Thursday of each month at Lakeland Senior Center, Woodruff, WI. Contact Paul Engwall 715-358-5400.

Madison Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 on the 2nd Monday of each month at Zimbrick Buick, 1601 W. Beltline Hwy. at Fish Hatchery intersection. Contact Tom Galway. Phone 608-238-1722.

Manitowoc Coin Club

No regular monthly meetings. An annual coin show is held in February. Contact Al Hrudka 920-775-4979.

Milwaukee Numismatic Society

Meets at 7:00 on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Mayfair Mall Community Room, 2500 N. Mayfair Road in Wauwatosa (use #2 entrance, east side of mall). Contact Bruce Benoit, PO Box 210064, Milwaukee, 53221. Phone: 414-282-8128.

Nicolet Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday at Stein Supper Club, 126 S. Adams in Green Bay.

Northwoods Stamp & Coin Club

Contact the club at P.O. Box 126, Rhinelander, WI 54501.

Ozaukee Coin Club

Meets the 2nd Thursday at the Rose Harms Legion Post, 1540 13th Ave. in Grafton. (Youth mtg. 6:30; General mtg. 7:00. Contact Ozaukee Coin Club, P.O. Box 832, Cedarburg, WI 53012.

Racine Numismatic Society

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd Thursday at Castlewood Restaurant in Sturtevant (across the street from Amtrack Depot). Contact George Conrad 262-634-0833.

Rockford Area Coin Club

Contact: Rockford Area Coin Club, c/o Darrell Schultz, P.O. Box 294, Cherry Valley, IL 61016.

Sheboygan Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 every other Tuesday at Maple Lanes, 3107 South Business Dr., in Sheboygan. Contact Sheboygan Coin Club, P.O. Box 907, Sheboygan, WI 53081.

South Shore Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at St. Roman's Parish Office, 1710 W. Bolivar Ave. in Milwaukee. Contact Walter Weis 414-384-7966.

Waukesha Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 1st Wednesday of each month at the Waukesha Salvation Army offices at 445 Madison St., Waukesha. Contact Forrest Schumacher, 2300 Avalon Drive, Waukesha, WI 53186.

Wisconsin Dells Area Numismatic Group

Meets the 4th Sunday of each month at Chula Vista Resort, Wis. Dells. 6:30 social hour; 7:00 presentation. Contact Joe Kaminski 608-254-7908.

Wisconsin Valley Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Liberty Bell Coin Investments, 130 N. 3rd Ave., Wausau. Contact Thad Streeter, 715-355-5437. (June, July, Aug. meets the 3rd Tues. and the 1st Tuesday in December).



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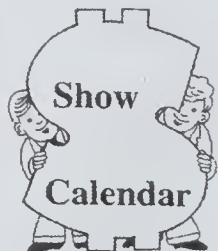
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Please send information on your upcoming show to the NOW News Editor, PO Box 155, Mazomanie, WI 53560. Include name of club, location of show, dates, hours, number of tables and your show/bourse chairman's name, address and phone.

January 21, 2007 - Madison

Madison Area Coin Show at Sheraton Hotel, 706 John Nollann Drive, Madison. Hours: 9-4 p.m. 50+ tables. Show Chm. John Krueger. Ph. 608-834-4100.

January 28, 2007 - Rockford, IL

Rockford Area Coin Club's 101st Semi-Annual Coin Show at Holiday Inn Hoffman House, 7550 E. State St., Rockford, IL. Hours: 9-4 p.m. 50 tablers. Contact Larry Kasberger Phone 815-547-6382.

February 11, 2007 - Manitowoc

Manitowoc Coin Show at Club Bill-Mar, 3627 Cty. Hwy. CR, Manitowoc. Contact Al Hrudka Phone 920-775-4979.

February 18, 2007 - Oshkosh

Wisconsin Coin Expo Show (formerly Numismatic Research Society) at the Oshkosh Convention Center, 2 N. Main St., Oshkosh. Hours: 9-5 p.m. Contact Randy Miller, PO Box 254, Oshkosh, WI 54903. Phone 920-231-6161.

February 25, 2007 - Racine

Racine Numismatic Society's 69th Annual Coin Show at South Hills Country Club, 3047 Hwy. 41/94, Franksville, WI. Hours: 8:30-3:00 p.m. 41 tables. Contact Dick Roskres at 262-554-0540 or Jerry Binsfeld at 262-657-4653.

March 4, 2007 - NOW

Madison Coin Club will host NOW's 47th Annual Show at the Sheraton Hotel, 706 John Nolan Drive, Madison. Show Chm. Josh Moran Ph. 608-836-1777.

March 8-11, 2007 - Rosemont, IL

Chicago Paper Money Expo at Crowne Plaza, Chicago O'Hare, 5440 N. River Road, Rosemont. Contact Kevin Foley 414-421-3484.

March 11, 2007 - Brookfield

Waukesha Coin Club's 38th Annual Coin Show at American Legion Hall, 3245 N. 124th St. Brookfield.

Contact: Forrest Schumacher. Phone: 262-542-3934 or 262-542-5990.

March 16-18, 2007 - ANA

ANA National Money Show at Charlotte Convention Center, Charlotte, NC. Contact ANA Convention Dept. 719-632-2646.

March 16-18, 2007 - Brooklyn Center, MN

Northwest Coin Show at Earle Brown Heritage Center, 6155 Earle Brown Drive, Brooklyn Center, MN.

March 29-31, 2007 - Milwaukee

South Shore Coin Club's 43rd annual show at the Four Points Sheraton-Airport Hotel, 4747 S. Howell Ave., Milwaukee. Contact Walter Weis 414-382-7966.

April 1, 2007 - Appleton

Fox Valley Coin Club's 52nd Annual Spring Coin Show at Wave Bar & Ballroom, 2350 N. Casaloma Dr. (near Fox Cities Stadium), Appleton. Hours 9-4 p.m. 40 Dealer tables. Contact James Bayer, P.O. Box 1981, Appleton, WI 54912. Phone 920-739-1089.

April 22, 2007 - Wausau

Wisconsin Valley Coin Show at the Wausau Inn, 2101 N. Mountain Rd., Wausau. Hours: 9-5 p.m. 45 dealers, Show Chm. Thad Streeter, 5002 Tanya St., Shofield, WI 54476. Phone 715-355-5437.

April 26-29, 2007 - Rosemont, IL

Chicago International Coin Fair at Crowne Plaza Chicago O'Hare, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont, IL. Contact Kevin Foley, 414-421-3484.

May 6, 2007 - Green Bay

Nicolet Coin Club's Spring Coin Show at Comfort Suites/Rock Garden, 1951 Bond Street, Green Bay. Hours: 9-4 p.m. 39 tables. Bourse Chm. Roger Bohn, 1345 Ponderosa Ave., Green Bay, WI 54313. Phone: 920-499-7035.

May 7-12, 2007 - Central States

CSNS 68th Anniversary Convention at America's Center, 701 Convention Plaza, St. Louis, MO. Contact Convention Chm. Kevin Foley. Phone: 414-421-3484.

May 12, 2007 - Sheboygan

Sheboygan Coin & Stamp Show at the Municipal Hall, 375 Buffalo Street, Sheboygan. Hours: 9-4 p.m. 44 tables (36 numismatic). Contact Ed Rautmann, PO Box 907, Sheboygan, WI 53082. Phone: 920-893-5874.

June 21-24, 2007 - Rosemont, IL

26th Annual Mid America Coin Expo at Donald Stephens Convention Center. Contact Kevin Foley. Phone 414-421-3484.

August 8-12, 2007 - ANA

American Numismatic Association's 116th Anniversary Convention in Milwaukee, Wis. Contact ANA Convention Dept. Phone 719-632-2646.

September 16, 2007 - Rockford, IL

Rockford Area Coin Show

October 7, 2007 - Milwaukee

Milwaukee Numismatic Society's 72nd coin show at the American Sub Memorial Hall, 5101 W. Oklahoma Ave., Milwaukee. Hours: 9-4 p.m. 64 Tables. Bourse Chm. Dave Hunsicker, 248 S. 7th Ave. West Bend, WI 53095-3221. Phone 262-338-6064.

November 14-17, 2007 - St. Louis MO

22nd Annual National & World Paper Money Convention, St. Louis airport Hilton Hotel. Contact Kevin Foley 414-421-3484.

November 23-25, 2007 - Dearborn, MI

Michigan State Numismatic Society's 52nd Anniversary Thanksgiving Convention at Hyatt Regency Hotel, 1 Fairlane Dr. Contact: Don Charters 734-721-4991.

February 17, 2008 - Oshkosh

Wisconsin Coin Expos LLC 24th Annual Coin Show at Oshkosh Convention Center. Contact Randy Miller, P.O. Box 254, Oshkosh, WI 54903. Phone 920-231-6161.

March 7-9, 2008 - ANA

ANA National Money Show in Phoenix, AZ. Contact ANA Convention Dept. 719-632-2646.

April 3-5, 2008 - Milwaukee

South Shore Coin Club's 44th Annual Show at Four Points Sheraton-Airport, Milwaukee. Contact Walteer Weeis 414-384-7966.

April 16-19, 2008 - Central States

CSNS Convention at Donald E. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont, IL. Bourse contact: Jerry Lebo, Phone 574-753-2489; e-mail: lebo@clss.net.

July 30-Aug.3, 2008 - ANA

117th Anniversary American Numismatic Assoc. Convention in Baltimore, MD. Contact the ANA Convention Dept., Phone 719-632-2646.

November 28-30, 2008 - Dearborn MI

Michigan State Numismatic Society's 53rd Anniversary Thanksgiving Convention. Hyatt Regency Hotel in Dearborn. For information contact Don Charters Phone 734-721-4991.

April 28-May 1, 2009 - Central States

70th Anniversary CSNS Convention at Cynergy Center, Cincinnati OH. Contact Jerry Lebo Ph. 574-753-2489.



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